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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,562	11/09/2005	Stefano Cevenini	331.1085	1196

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EXAMINER
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IZAGUIRRE, ISMAEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3765

DATE MAILED: 04/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/523,562

Applicant(s)

CEVENINI ET AL.

Examiner

Ismael Izaguirre

Art Unit

3765

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/1/05; 11/9/05</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***SPECIFICATION***

***Informality***

The specification is objected to because of the informality on page 2. In paragraph 6 the words "(Please provide a brief... of the steam iron station.)" should be replaced by a more appropriate text. Appropriate correction is required.

***CLAIMS***

***Summary***

Claim 15 is the independent claim under consideration in this Office Action.

Claims 16-28 are the dependent claims under consideration in this Office Action.

***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 15-17 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Carlsen (2,739,398).

Carlsen teaches an ironing board 1 having a pointed end and a blunt end 3 and an iron rest 10 at the blunt end where the iron rest is mounted on the ironing board such that it rides on rails 11 and is pushable to two positions where one is in the storage positioning under the ironing board and the other is in an extended position as a drawer.

Carlsen teaches a connector or recess 45 (figure 5) for allowing the electrical cord to pass and which includes a handle 12 for handling the iron rest. A weight 7 is suspended in the air and tensions the cord for allowing the cord to remain out of the way when in use.

***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 18,19,27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen in view of Couch et al. (5,290,998).

Carlsen discloses the invention substantially as claimed. See above for specific explanations of the structural details of this document. Briefly, Carlsen teaches an ironing board having an iron rest movable like a drawer for accommodating an iron. However, Carlsen does not suggest the iron rest as including a socket and switch and pilot light on the ironing rest.

Couch et al. teach an ironing board having a blunt end and an iron rest located thereat. The iron rest includes a socket 25 for allowing the iron 10 to plug into the socket. The socket is set up such that is it rotatable and fixable ant any angle and

further includes control buttons and warning lights (column 7, lines 35-59) for indicating a condition of the iron and for powering and shutting off the iron.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to construct the iron rest of Carlsen as including a rotatable socket with panels including indicating lights and switches for controlling the functioning of the iron. Providing such structure would allow a more accurate control of the iron and a resting of the iron within easy reach of the user.

Claims 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen in view of Krause (5,142,802).

Carlsen discloses the invention substantially as claimed. See above for specific explanations of the structural details of this document. Briefly, Carlsen teaches an ironing board having an iron rest movable like a drawer for accommodating an iron. However, Carlsen does not suggest the iron rest as including flaps, which are articulate for holding the iron during use.

Krause teaches an ironing board having a blunt end and an iron rest located thereat. The iron rest includes a pair of opposing articulated flaps 5 (figure 3, for example) which are oriented obliquely to a plane of the board and point downwardly when contacted by the iron.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to construct the iron rest of Carlsen as including an iron rest with articulated flaps for holding the iron during use. Providing such flaps

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would allow the iron to be placed on the stand in a tilted manner and thus prevent water from accidentally entering the vaporization chamber when on the stand.

Claims 23,24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlsen in view of Schuelein et al. (DE19,526,637).

Carlsen discloses the invention substantially as claimed. See above for specific explanations of the structural details of this document. Briefly, Carlsen teaches an ironing board having an iron rest movable like a drawer for accommodating an iron. However, Carlsen does not suggest the iron rest as including at least three flaps, which are fixed in their bent positions for holding the iron during use.

Schuelein et al. teach an ironing board having a blunt end and an iron rest located thereat. The iron rest includes a pair of opposing flaps 23 (figure 6, for example) and where at least one includes a third flap 24 which is bent and points upwards and forms part of the extension to the first and second flaps 23.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of Applicant's invention to construct the iron rest of Carlsen as including an iron rest with at least three flaps for holding the iron during use. Providing such flaps would allow the iron to be placed on the stand in a tilted manner and thus prevent water from accidentally entering the vaporization chamber when on the stand.

### ***DRAWINGS***

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the following elements

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must be shown or the feature cancelled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered:

- 1) The two pull-out positions which the iron rest is fixable (claim 16).
- 2) The socket and switch (claim 18).
- 3) The pilot light with switch being connected to the light (claim 19).
- 4) The third support flap pointing upward and forming and extensions to one of the support flaps (claim 24).
- 5) The support being fixable at any rotational angle.

Correction is required.

#### ***PERTINENT CITATIONS***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wren et al., and Munson illustrate ironing boards having iron rests, which slide like drawers. Tyler illustrates an iron rest slidable and rotatable. Robinson illustrates an iron rest with a plug and hanging weight. Steele, Lapastora and Lamb illustrate iron rests with weights, switches, lights and plugs. Nakao illustrates an ironing board with an iron rest movable under the ironing board ironing surface.

#### ***INQUIRIES***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ismael Izaguirre whose telephone number is (571) 272-4987. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-6:00).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Calvert can be reached on (571) 272-4983. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Ismael Izaguirre  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3765